

Grant Parish



"Over the years, it has become clear that individual health is closely linked to community health—the health of the community and environment in which individuals live, work, and play. Likewise, community health is profoundly affected by the collective beliefs, attitudes, and behaviors of everyone who lives in the community"

Healthy People 2010

Parish Health Profiles 2005 — Your Parish at a Glance

	Grant	Louisiana	U.S.	HP 2010
ECONOMICS, 2000				
% All persons in poverty	21.5%	19.6%	12.4%	--
% Children under 18 in poverty	28.1%	26.6%	16.6%	--
% Unemployed 16 and over	7.0%	7.3%	5.8%	--
EDUCATION 2002-2003				
School Expenditure per Student	\$6,396	\$6,906	--	--
Student Attendance (average daily attendance as a % of the average number of students enrolled)	93.7%	93.5%	--	--
% High School Drop Outs (as a % of incoming 9th grade)	6.7%	7.0%	--	--
MOTHERS AND CHILDREN, 2002				
Infant mortality rate (per 1,000 births)	12.8	10.2	7.0	4.5
% Receiving prenatal care within first 3 months	86.6%	83.8%	83.7%	90.0%
% Receiving adequate prenatal care (modified Kessner)	84.9%	78.9%	76.2%	--
% Low birth weight	9.3%	10.5%	7.7%	5.0%
% Births to teens ages 15 - 19	17.1%	15.5%	10.6%	--
% Children fully immunized by 2 years old	--	69.8%	78.5%	90.0%
INFECTIOUS DISEASES, 2003 (new cases - rate per 100,000 population)				
Syphilis (primary and secondary)	--	4.1	2.5	0.2
Early Syphilis (primary, secondary and early latent)	0.0	8.6	5.4	--
Chlamydia	240.7	469.8	304.3	3.0
Gonorrhea	64.2	265.6	116.2	19.0
Tuberculosis	0.0	5.8	5.1	1.0
STATEWIDE LEADING CAUSES OF DEATH, 2002 (death rate per 100,000 population)				
Heart	212.9	248.4	241.7	166.0
Cancer	260.9	209.7	193.2	159.9
Cerebrovascular Disease	**	57.4	56.4	48.0
Accidents	**	46.7	37.0	17.5
Diabetes	**	39.5	25.4	45.0
Chronic Lower Respiratory	**	37.8	43.3	--
COMMUNITY SAFETY, 2003				
Validated cases of child abuse/neglect (rate per 1,000 population)	15.2	10.9	12.4	10.3
Deaths caused by motor vehicle crashes (rate per 100 Million Vehicle Miles Traveled)	2.8	2.1	1.5	0.8
HEALTH BEHAVIORS, 2004				
	Region 6	Louisiana	U.S.	HP 2010
% Current cigarette smokers (adults 18+)	28.2%	23.5%	21.0%	12.0%
% Obese - BMI > 30 (adults 20+)	27.1%	27.0%	31.1%	15.0%
% Having a mammogram within 2 years (women 40+)	69.0%	74.3%	74.6%	70.0%
% Having a pap smear within 3 years (women 18+)	86.5%	85.2%	85.9%	90.0%
% Having a flu shot in past year (adults 65+)	67.5%	68.6%	67.9%	90.0%

Data Sources:

Economics: U.S. Census 2000 Summary File 3 (SF 3) - Sample Data, 2000

Education: Louisiana Department of Education District-reported data submitted to the Student Information System (SIS) end-of-year (EOY) report and Profile of Educational Personnel (PEP) System. Office of Management and Finance, Division of Planning, Analysis and Information Resources. District Composite Report 2003-2004.

Mothers and Children: DHH/OPH, Louisiana State Center for Health Statistics, 2004 Louisiana Health Report Card and National Vital Statistics Reports, Vol. 53, No. 15, February 2005

Infectious Diseases: DHH/OPH, Sexually Transmitted Disease Program. 2004 and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, "Trends in Reportable Sexually Transmitted Disease in the United State, 2003". NA = Rate not available, # of cases is less than 5

Leading Causes of Death: DHH/OPH, Louisiana State Center for Health Statistics, 2004 Louisiana Health Report Card and National Vital Statistics Reports, Vol. 53, No. 15, February 2005 (**Rates for counts less than 20 are unreliable and are not reported)

Community Safety: Child Abuse--Louisiana Department of Social Services, Office of Community Services, prepared by Prevent Child Abuse Louisiana and Motor Vehicle Deaths--EM S/Injury Research & Prevention Program

Healthy Behaviors: DHH/OPH, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS), 2004

History^{1, 2}

Post-Civil War legislation created Grant Parish on March 1, 1869, from the southern part of Winn Parish and the northern part of Rapides Parish. It was named after President Ulysses S. Grant. Colfax, the parish seat, was named after the Vice President. Much of the Parish encompasses one of the large divisions of the Kisatchie National Forest, a vast reforestation project. Grant Parish is a pleasant change from the rat race in the bit cities. Residents and visitors enjoy the Glen Emery Nature Trail and Stuart Lake, a man-made lake within the Kisatchie National Forest.



There are many miles of sparsely populated gravel roads that take you back to a slower-paced time period, and beckon to the horseback enthusiast. There are two festivals, in April and November, one celebrating pecans, the other Mayhaw Jelly, and during the end of March and beginning of April, the dogwoods blooming near Stuart Lake are beautiful. Grant Parish also has one feature that no other Parish in Central Louisiana can boast of: no traffic signals.

Parish Seat³Colfax

Major Cities (population over 5,000)
N/A

Parish Population⁴

2000.....	18,698
2003 (estimate)	18,887
2000 Population by Race	
White.....	85.4%
African-American	11.9%
Some other race.....	2.7%
Hispanic of Latino (of any race)	1.1%
2000 Population by Age	
Under 5 years	7.4%
5-14	16.0%
15-17	4.9%
18-19	2.6%
20-24	5.4%
25-64	51.1%
65 & over	12.7%

Geography and Statistics⁵

Average elevation	100ft.
Land area in square miles	645
Water area in square miles	19.5

Climate

Average temperatures

Annual	68°
January	53°
July	82°
Annual average rainfall	71.2 inches

Labor Force (2001)⁶

Grant Parish

Civilian.....	6,963
Employed	6,380
Unemployed.....	583
Unemployment.....	8.4%

Louisiana

Civilian.....	2,055,000
Employed	1,956,500
Unemployed.....	98,500
Unemployment Rate	4.8%

Colleges/Universities (within one hour commute)

- Northwestern State University, Natchitoches
- Louisiana State University and A&M College, Alexandria
- Louisiana College, Pineville

1. [Louisiana Almanac](#), 2002-2003 edition, Pelican Publishing Company, Gretna, LA. 2002.
2. Louisiana Office of Tourism. 1998. keywords: regional information
<<http://www.crt.state.la.us/crt/tourism/>>.
3. [Louisiana Almanac](#), 2002-2003 edition, Pelican Publishing Company, Gretna, LA. 2002.
4. U.S. Census Bureau, Summary File 1 (SF 1) and Summary File 3 (SF 3) <<http://www.census.gov>>.
5. U.S. Census Bureau: State and County QuickFacts <<http://www.census.gov>>.
6. Louisiana Department of Labor, Civilian Labor Force Summary
<http://www.ldol.state.la.us/forms/lmi/CLF_Parishes_2000-Present.xls>.